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Shops in New York, Bridgeport, New Haven, Waterbury.

OUR NEWTOWN NEWS LETTER

(Special to The Farmer.)

Newtown, April 19.—At the town hall, Monday, April 24, there will be a minstrel show by Bridgeport's Famous Seven, given under the direction of George F. Bradley, featuring those funny boys, Vincent Benham, Frank "Money Boy" Rush, William Koffey, William Cole, Harry Lynch and George F. Bradley, in comedy and vocal numbers. Likewise, Miss Genevieve Brown, the talented soloist of Bridgeport, will sing. Kearn's orchestra of Bridgeport will furnish music for the dancing to follow the entertainment. The affair is for the benefit of St. Rose's church.

On Friday afternoon, April 23, at 8:30 o'clock, there will be a meeting of the public school teachers of Newtown at the high school building at which Special Agent Light, representing the state board of education, will be present. All teachers are requested to attend.

The civil suit of Jacob Shoppie vs. J. Edmund Skiff came up before Justice E. H. McCarthy yesterday, but was adjourned for one week. This is one of the cases arising in the bankruptcy of the defendant and the justice decided to take up all the cases at the same date.

Michael Carr is painting for Dr. W. H. Kiernan.

Israel Goldstein, a recent graduate of the local high school, now studying in New York for a Ph. D. degree, is spending the days with his parents in Bridgeport.

Miss Roberta Neville of Bridgeport is the guest of Newtown friends.

Miss Edith Osborn of Monroe, attending the local high school, is spending the Easter recess with her sister in Stepney.

Mrs. Harry O'Brien of Rowell street is seriously ill.

Mrs. Howard Ruff has four beautiful catch in bloom, which are a delight to all beholders. They will be used as Easter decorations in the church.

Miss Gertrude Bradley, assistant at the postoffice, was able to leave Mrs. S. F. Schermerhorn's last week, where she was hospitably taken when first attacked by grip prostration several weeks ago. She is now improving rapidly at the home of her father, Thomas F. Bradley.

Sandy Hook schoolhouse is being painted and decorated interiorly this week, to carry out the recommendations of the health officer, and in accordance with the suggestion of the inspector, representing C. D. Hine of the state board of education.

D. C. Johnson, who has been caretaker for O. Howard Hall of Brook Farm during the winter, has been relieved of his charge by the return of the Hall family, and is now employed in the same capacity by Mrs. E. Miller, who purchased the Kahle property, known as Pleasant View Farm, in South Center.

Fred McGuire, telegraph operator at the Sandy Hook station of the Highland division, has moved his family from Litchfield to one of the houses on Pine street, owned by the Fabric Fire Hose Co.

Jean Altematt has entered the employ of W. C. Johnson.

Miss Hazel Egan of Bridgeport has been a recent guest of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Egan of Palestine.

Mrs. Jacob Freed has sold her farm in Zoar, and with her family has returned to New York. The new owners of the property come from the Metropolis, but it is understood, will not take possession at once.

A. J. Gallagher of the Glen has removed the sheds from the front of his hotel property, thus giving him a wider outlook and traffic along the highway better leeway at this narrow

MELLEN SUES ROAD FOR \$138,222 DUE FOR "ADVICE" GIVEN

Former President Says He Had Five Year Contract With "New Haven" at \$30,000 a Year, With Guarantee Against Losses Through Suits Arising From Connection With Road.

MR. MELLEN'S TESTIMONY REGARDING "\$150,000 PRESENT"

Concerning the testimony of Charles S. Mellen before the Interstate Commerce Commission at the time the commission was investigating the financial transactions of the New Haven Railroad, Senate Documents, Vol. 19 (63d Congress, 1914-15), gives the following questions by Joseph W. Folk, and answers by the road's former President.

Q. What arrangement did you have with the New Haven, when you left, as to your compensation? A. There was a contract offered me, not at my solicitation, in effect to retain my services unofficially, my information, my experience, my advice, for a term of five years at \$30,000 a year afterward.

Q. For a term of five years at how much a year? A. Thirty thousand dollars; but just prior to the annual meeting in October I was waited upon by two members of the committee, who had arranged my retirement, who said that the compensation that had been voted was a source of embarrassment to them, and that it was likely to be a bone of contention at the stockholders' meeting, which was to occur within a day or two, and they asked me if I would waive it; and, with my usual way of doing business with the New Haven Railroad, I made them a present of the \$150,000.

Q. Did they pay you anything in cash? A. Not a cent. They paid my salary up to the day I left, and I would not receive a cent from them under any circumstances whatsoever.

New York, April 19.—Charles S. Mellen, formerly President of the New Haven Railroad, filed in the Supreme Court yesterday, through Homer S. Cummings of No. 120 Broadway, a suit to recover \$138,222 he alleges is due him on a contract signed July 13, 1913, whereby on his retirement he was to receive \$30,000 a year for five years for acting in an advisory capacity, together with all expenses resulting from suits growing out of his official acts. Mr. Mellen asks for two years' salary, under this contract, still unpaid, and for \$78,222 he says he expended in protecting himself in criminal and civil suits.

The fact that such a contract existed was brought out during the trial of the Government's conspiracy suit last year against William Rockefeller and other directors of the road, but the document was not put in evidence.

The "Advisory" Contract This contract, which is attached to the complaint, follows: "Agreement between the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company (hereinafter called the New Haven Company) and Charles S. Mellen.

Whereas, Charles S. Mellen is about to retire from the office of President of the New Haven Co., and the New Haven Company desires to secure, for a period of five years from and after the date of his retirement, the benefit of his services in an advisory capacity.

Now, therefore, Charles S. Mellen with the New Haven Company that he will hold himself in readiness during the term of five years from and after the date of his ceasing to be President of the New Haven Company, at the request of the President and directors of the New Haven Co., to meet with them at such time and place as they reasonably request and give him all such aid, assistance, information regarding the affairs of the New Haven Co., and his advice. In consideration of this agreement on the part of Charles S. Mellen, and his services, under the agreement, the New Haven Company agree with Charles S. Mellen;

To "Hold Him Harmless." "First—To pay him during said term of five years the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) per annum.

"Second, to indemnify and hold him harmless from all loss, cost and expense incurred by him in defending himself in any and every existing, or future, proceeding, criminal, civil or otherwise, in any court or tribunal, on account of any matters arising out of his acts as president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Co., or any of the corporations by it controlled, or in satisfying by the payment of money any judgment, decision, order or decree against him of any court or tribunal in any such proceeding.

"Third, to release and defend the New Haven & Hartford Railroad Co., in its behalf by its secretary, thereunto duly authorized, and Charles S. Mellen heretofore set his hand on this 13th day of July, 1913.

"N. Y. N. H. & H. R. R., by "ARTHUR E. CLARK, "CHARLES S. MELLEN.

Witness: "FRANK T. HOOKER, "N. W. GLUE, "N. Y. N. H. & H. R. R., "M. K. DUGAN, "W. H. ROLAND, "For Charles S. Mellen."

Persons who recalled the testimony given by Mr. Mellen before the Interstate Commerce Commission when that body was investigating the financial transactions of the New Haven last year, expressed surprise at the suit, because Mr. Mellen admitted he had waived the contract at the instance of two members of the Reapportioning Committee. They had told him, he testified, that the contract was "a source of embarrassment," so he agreed to waive and "made them a present of \$150,000." He declared he had not received a penny under the contract and would not "take a cent under any circumstances."

Mellen Tells of Losses The plaintiff states that he resigned as president of the New Haven July 17, 1913, and that his resignation took effect Sept. 1. On that day the agreement went into effect. He declares that since then he has at all times carried out and performed all the duties and obligations of his part of the contract, but that, although he has made demands for payment, not a dollar has been forthcoming.

Mr. Mellen then takes up that section of the agreement in which the New Haven assumed all liability for defending actions brought against him. He does not say that the road did not meet some of the bills he incurred, as it did, but concerning his own expenditures, which have not

STRATFORD NEEDS PLAYGROUNDS, IS PLEA OF WOMEN

Public-Spirited Residents Seek Improvement of Child Life.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Stratford, April 19.—The Child Welfare club met yesterday afternoon at the high school hall and held a most interesting meeting. Mrs. W. B. Kelsey presided. In reference to the school grounds, it was announced that Miss Valette would act as the chairman of the seed and slip committee, her helpers to be the following teachers: Miss Code, Miss Spoor, Miss Avery, Miss Kimbell, and Miss Harris. Mrs. William Richardson is chairman of the garden inspection committee, and her assistants, Miss Alice Curtis, Miss May Curtis, Mrs. Olmstead, Mrs. Thomas Taylor, Miss Jennie Booth, Mrs. W. L. Dunbar and Mrs. F. W. Botsford. In the autumn Miss Alice Curtis will act as chairman of the flower and vegetable exhibit and will be assisted by Mrs. Elliott Peck, Mrs. Louis Snyder, Mrs. W. B. Bristol and Mrs. George Carey.

The following delegates were appointed to attend the State Conference of Mothers' Clubs to be held in New Britain, April 27 and 28: Mrs. E. B. Kelsey, Mrs. E. C. Carpenter, Mrs. William Richardson, Mrs. DeRuyter Howland and Mrs. F. W. Botsford.

The resignation of Mrs. Stanley Y. Beach as treasurer of the club was accepted and Mrs. Eugene Wells was elected to fill the vacancy. Interesting reports of the Congress of Mothers held at the Hotel Taft in New Haven, March 21, of the meeting of the Fairfield Parent-Teachers' association held last week, were given by Mrs. Kelsey and Mrs. Richardson respectively.

The close of the business meeting an interesting talk on school playgrounds was given, and illustrated, by the Rev. E. C. Carpenter. It is a great pity that more of those who are so deeply interested in the subject were not able to be present as the talk was well worth going far to hear. Mrs. Carpenter is the probation officer of Stratford and in his dealing with young truants has had it impressed upon him the need of proper surroundings for children as a necessary prevention of petty crimes. His work has brought him in touch with the parents and teachers as well as the boys themselves, and it is his opinion that those children who have had a chance to develop in a normal way and to work off their surplus energy in good healthful out-of-door games are not the ones who turn out criminals.

What Stratford needs, he said, is not so much playgrounds for the very young children, most of whom have yards to play in, but playgrounds for the older school children, from the seventh grade up, who have outgrown their own front yards. For these is needed a ground on which to play baseball, basketball, a place for skating in winter and a place for swimming in summer; neither is it essential that expensive apparatus be provided, but an instructor is a necessary feature in playground work. Mr. Carpenter's talk was illustrated by slides which showed how other cities have solved the problem of restless childhood. Some of these showed girls dancing around May-poles, others exciting butterfly dances, while others were engaged in games both strength-engendering and fun-promoting. Other slides showed boys in the ever popular sports of ball playing, and in a slide still being shown, the other side of the story was pitifully told in those scenes which depicted the wretched looking children who were compelled to spend their time out of school, in their recreation period, in freight yards, in coal bins, and similar places.

At a joint meeting of the sewer committee and the board of selectmen held last evening at the town hall, Frank Jaynes of Bridgeport was awarded the contract for the making of sewer map. The map will cost about \$8,000. Other firms that submitted bids for the making of the map were Scofield & Ford of Bridgeport, and Palmer & Goodell of Stratford. Both boards will meet this evening to attach their signatures to the contract.

Arthur A. Greenhill, aged 32, of Wood avenue, underwent a very delicate operation at the New York City hospital at 8 West Sixteenth street, recently, when he had a five-inch bone grafted from his right leg onto his right forearm. The operation was successful. Mr. Greenhill is now at his home. Mr. Greenhill was the victim of an automobile accident of Christmas eve in which one man lost his life, and Mrs. Greenhill and her sister-in-law were injured. The auto collided with a trolley car at Connecticut and Stratford avenues. Frederick Camp of Eggenburg, who was with Mr. Underhill, was instantly killed.

The Mission League of the Congregational church will hold an Easter

FORMER REPRESENTATIVE JOHN A. PAYNE IS DEAD.

Danielson, Conn., April 19.—John A. Payne, a representative of the General Assembly of 1897, from Killingly, died at his home here today. He was born at Woodstock in 1850 and was for many years prominent in educational and banking circles. He was president of the First National Bank of Killingly which was absorbed by the Windham County National Bank and was also head of the Windsor County Savings Bank. He was judge of probate in 1902.

CISERANKO JAILED FOR BICYCLE THEFT

John Ciseranko, aged 24, of New York, was sentenced to 30 days in jail and fined \$1 and costs by Judge Frank L. Wilder in city court today. Ciseranko was trying to sell a bicycle which had been stolen from Carlo Tamborino, 53 Hamilton street, when arrested by Acting Detective George Simon. Ciseranko said he was given the bicycle by a friend.

STAMFORD FARMER A SUICIDE.

Stamford, April 19.—Henry Miller, a farmer, died at the hospital here today as the result of wounds in the throat self-inflicted with a razor last night at his home. He is believed to have been mentally deranged. He was born in Germany, 55 years ago, and is survived by a son and daughter, the latter Mrs. Sophie Fairchild, of New York city.

CHEMICALS QUELLED BONFIRE

Torches from a bonfire in the rear of 887 Fairfield avenue were blown about by wind today. The fire was extinguished with chemicals by firemen from Chemical company No. 1. No damage was done.



Columbia Records

FOR

MAY

The May list of Columbia Records covers the whole realm of music, in the inimitable "Columbia" manner. Masterpieces of reproduction in every record. There are four May records to which particular attention is directed. Among the popular hits of the month, are two which stand out clear and sharp:

"There's A Broken Heart for Every Light on Broadway," Sung by Manuel Romain, the celebrated counter-tenor.

"That's the Meaning of Ireland," rendered by Henry Burr, tenor. Orchestra accompaniment in both renditions.

Two splendid dance records, which will find favor at once:—

Hawaiian Medley—One Step, by Prince's Orchestra.

"Maid of My Heart," Fox Trot, by Prince's Band.

Waltzes by the Marimba Octette, brilliant Orchestral overtures: Operatic choruses, college songs, etc. Ready Thursday. Stop in and hear them in our ideal demonstration rooms.

ON SALE THURSDAY

AT THE

WISSNER

PIANO WAREROOMS

923 MAIN ST.

PHONE 3500

sale of home-made articles Thursday afternoon from 2:30 o'clock until 5 o'clock. The sale will be held in the parish house. Among the persons who will assist are: Mrs. George Carey, Mrs. Fred Taylor, Mrs. James Wilson, and the Misses Inez Carey, Alice Taylor, Elsie Shelton, Elsie Hubbard, Edna Kelsey, Alice Meloy, Ruth Travis, Margaret Hunt, Dorothy Botsford, Helen Luce, Emily Atwood, Dorothy Silliman, Margaret Beach, Violet Curtis, Marion Hunt, Mary Taylor, Eleanor Willey, Jean Bullard and Esther Wilson.

Services at Christ Episcopal church, Good Friday, will be as follows:

10 a. m.—Morning prayer.

12 m. 3 p. m.—Meditation upon the even Last Words from the Cross.

7:45 p. m.—Evening service and cantata. Chorus of 20 voices with Mrs. Arthur Butterworth and Miss Bella M. Sundberg, soprano soloists; Richard Smith, tenor and Harry Butterworth and Roger Beers, baritone.

Prologue.

1. Chorus—"Now My Soul Thy Voice and Upraised."

2. Recitative (soprano.)

Solo (baritone and chorus), "Then Jesus Took Unto Him the Twelve."

3. Solo (tenor and chorus), "God So Loved the World."

Scene I. Gethsemane.

4. Recitative (soprano.)

Solo (baritone), "Then Cometh Jesus With Them."

5. Hymn 99, Hymn.

Scene II. The Trials Before Caiaphas and Pilate.

6. Recitative (soprano.)

Solo and chorus—"And They That Had Laid Hold on Jesus."

Scene III. On the Road to Calvary.

7. Processional March.

Chorus—"Surely He Hath Borne Our Griefs."

Solo (baritone and soprano), "And

He Bearing His Cross."

Scene IV. Calvary.

8. Soprano solo and chorus—"And When They Were Come to a Place."

9. Chorus and solo, "It Is Finished." Epilogue.

10. Solo (soprano and chorus), "Let This Mind Be in You."

11. Hymn 518, "At the Name of Jesus."

Elsie Louise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Shelton, of 750 East Broadway, entertained 24 of her young friends yesterday from 3 o'clock until 8. The occasion was her 12th birthday. The decorations were pink and white and the birthday cake white with pink candles. Dancing and games were enjoyed.

PATRIOTIC ORDER MEETS.

New Haven, April 19.—The 20th annual meeting of the Connecticut Society of the Order of Founders & Patriots was held here today. It was expected that Captain Clarence H. H. Wickham, of Hartford, would be elected governor.

STORES OPEN FRIDAY.

All the department stores of the city will be open Good Friday, according to a statement issued by the Retail Clerks' union. Fast Day is not one of the holidays which the clerks' agreement with the employers calls for observance.

Now is the time and this is the store to purchase your Easter millinery in untrimmed hats and trimmed dress hats. Besides being the leaders in the millinery world we carry the most select assortments of silk and lingerie shirt waists, ostrich neck boas and Maline and chiffon neck boas at E. H. Dillon & Co's, 1,105 Main street—Adv.

THE ELECTRIC SHOP

COR. BROAD AND CANNON STS.

"WIRE YOUR HOME" MONTH

Consider your needs at once and place your order in advance for the installation of

ELECTRICITY

IN YOUR HOME

The Special Campaign for house wiring will be for the month of May only at the price of

\$3.00 per Outlet

This special low price is for houses already built and on existing lines of service. The low prices on all fixtures will be maintained during this big offer, although this class of goods will be materially advanced very soon.

Call and consult our expert and get your estimate now

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